

Abstract

The present invention relates to a efficient expression of a protein, particularly, hirudin; a protein precursor comprising a signal sequence and the sequence of aa_X-hirudin, wherein aa_X is a selected amino acid, and aa_X is preferably leucine; to its preparation and use; and to processes for finding signal sequences for secretory expression of any desired protein in *E. coli*; and to processes for the secretory expression of any desired protein in *E. coli*.